

**United States Embassy Maputo, Mozambique**

Message for U.S. Citizens: No Eyeglasses in Passport and Visa Photographs  
September 29, 2016

Effective November 1, 2016, Consular Affairs (CA) will no longer accept photographs of visa and passport applicants wearing eyeglasses. This policy is designed to cut down on the more than 200,000 unacceptable passport photos received in 2015. Unacceptable photo quality is the number one cause of delayed application processing, and glasses glare accounts for a large portion of these cases.

An applicant may wear eyeglasses in a visa or passport application photograph in rare circumstances of medical necessity, for example, when an applicant has had recent ocular surgery and eyeglasses are necessary to protect his/her eyes during urgent travel. Applicants must provide a medical statement signed by a medical professional/health practitioner in these cases.

Further information about Department of State guidelines for passport and visa application photos can be found at

<https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/passports/photos/photos.html>.

If you have any specific questions about this change and how it may affect your upcoming application, please contact U.S. Embassy Maputo at

[ConsularMaputo@state.gov](mailto:ConsularMaputo@state.gov).